



Presenting Rescue 21

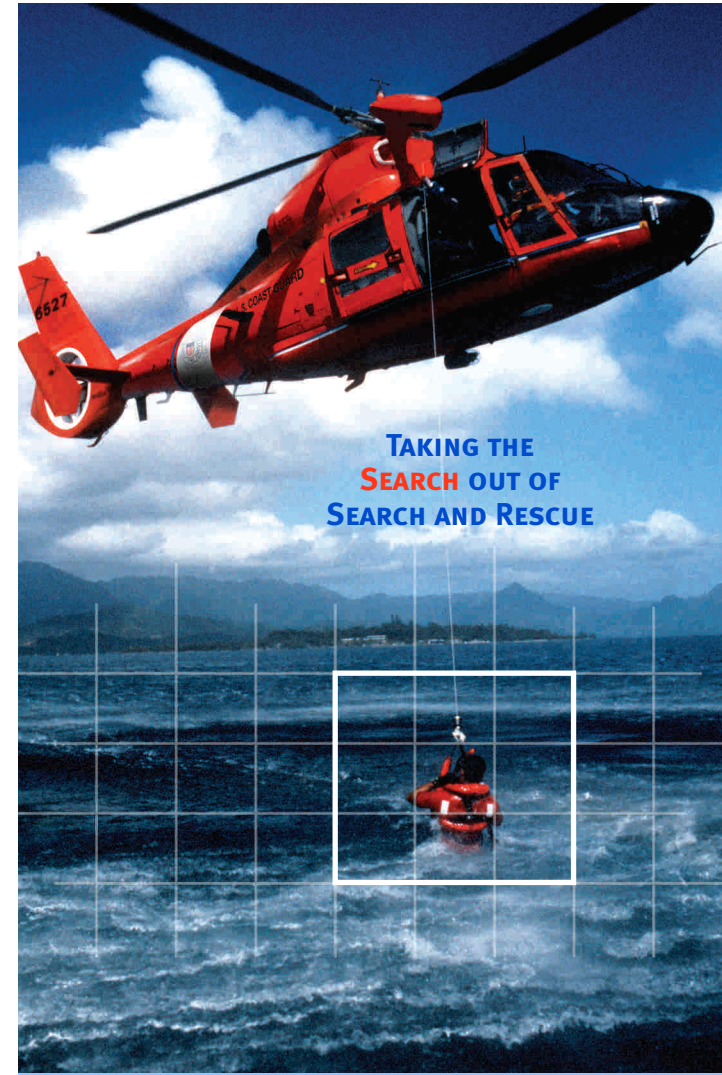
Rescue 21 is an advanced search and rescue communications system that helps the U.S. Coast Guard more effectively locate and assist boaters in distress.

For more than two centuries, the U.S. Coast Guard's primary mission has been helping boaters and saving lives.

In recent years, the Coast Guard has responded to about 60,000 emergency calls and saved nearly 5,000 lives annually. It's quite an achievement, since its search and rescue (SAR) operations rely on a short-range analog communications network that's three decades old.

But now it's the 21st century. With growing numbers of boaters and an expanded homeland security mission, better communications are essential for keeping boaters and America's waterways safe.

That's where Rescue 21 comes in.



INTRODUCING **U.S. COAST GUARD RESCUE 21**
SAVING LIVES IN THE 21st CENTURY

RESCUE 21 HELPS THE COAST GUARD HEAR YOUR DISTRESS CALL AND SEND HELP

Rescue 21 is an advanced search and rescue (SAR) communications system that helps the U.S. Coast Guard more effectively locate and assist boaters in distress in over 95,000 miles of coastline, navigable rivers, and lakes.



Designed by General Dynamics Decision Systems, Rescue 21 brings Coast Guard SAR communications into the 21st century to ensure the public's maritime safety.

Best of all, you don't need to do anything

differently. The maritime radio you already have will work with the new system even better than with the old one.

Rescue 21 improves the Coast Guard's response time and reliability by:

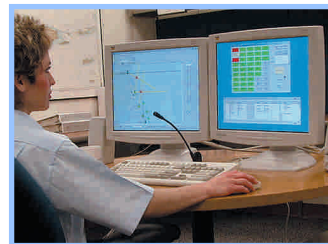
- **Recording communications for instant playback.** Even when the Coast Guard receives a garbled call or one with a weak signal, watchstanders will be able to slow these transmissions down and adjust the quality so that the message can be understood.
- **Providing better geographical coverage.** Even with the lowest-powered (1-watt) radio, the Rescue 21 system can receive distress calls made within 20 nautical miles of shore. When fully implemented, Rescue 21 will cover existing VHF-FM coverage gaps.
- **Locating the source of the call more accurately.** When responding to a VHF distress call, Rescue 21 will help the Coast Guard more accurately determine the exact direction of the vessel in distress — within 2° accuracy.



- **Establishing better coordination with other emergency services.** Rescue 21 will allow the Coast Guard to operate more seamlessly with land-based operations, as well as the federal, state, and local governments and 911 operators. This helps save more lives and allows the Coast Guard to better accomplish its other missions of law enforcement, prevention of terrorism and security threats, and reduction of damage to the marine environment.

YOU CAN HELP RESCUE 21 TAKE THE 'SEARCH' OUT OF SEARCH AND RESCUE

The Coast Guard will receive VHF signals from your current maritime radio even better with Rescue 21.



However, you can help the Coast Guard improve response time by using a marine radio equipped with digital selective calling (DSC). If properly registered with a Mobile Maritime Service Identity (MMSI) number and

interfaced with GPS, the DSC radio signal transmits vital vessel information, position, and the nature of distress (if entered) at the push of a button. **DSC signals will only be received when Rescue 21 is fully operational in your area.** To see Rescue 21's rollout schedule, visit www.uscg.mil/rescue21.

The BoatU.S. MMSI Program has been certified by both the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Coast Guard to assign MMSI numbers to vessels with DSC capable radios. To obtain and register for your MMSI number, the

Coast Guard recommends logging onto www.boat.us.com/mmsi/ and following the instructions.

Obviously, the less time the Coast Guard spends searching, the more efficiently it can find and rescue boaters in trouble. Saving time means saving lives — perhaps yours.

MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE WITH MINIMAL IMPACT

Like the Coast Guard's current telecommunications system, Rescue 21 requires radio towers to receive distress signals. Existing towers will be used or modified wherever possible, and Rescue 21 officials continue to work with regulatory agencies or those with environmental special expertise.

Rescue 21 is committed to minimize impacts to resources such as migratory birds and endangered species, wetlands, coastal zones, floodplains, and historic and cultural properties.

WHEREVER YOU ARE, WHENEVER YOU NEED HELP, THE COAST GUARD WILL BE THERE

As the Rescue 21 system rolls out over the next few years, the technology will change, but the Coast Guard's mission will remain the same: to help boaters and save lives.

Rescue 21 simply helps the Coast Guard respond more quickly and reliably than ever before to the 78 million recreational and commercial boaters in the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, and Puerto Rico. Because when lives are on the line, every minute counts.



Visit www.uscg.mil/rescue21 to learn more about Rescue 21 and how to help the Coast Guard better serve you and your fellow boaters.